CLAIMS:

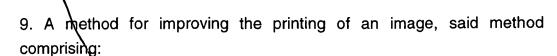
1. An improved font, comprising:

a halftone cell including a plurality of original pixels; and an auxiliary pixel replacing one of the plurality of original pixels to improve the printing of the halftone cell.

- 2. The improved halftone of claim 1, wherein the auxiliary pixel comprises a "black" auxiliary pixel.
- 3. The improved halftone of claim 1, wherein the auxiliary pixel comprises a "white" auxiliary pixel.
- 4. The improved halftone of claim 1, wherein the halftone cell is a clustered dot type.
- 5. The improved halftone of claim 1, wherein the halftone cell is a dispersed dot type.
- 6. The improved halftone of claim 4, wherein the clustered cell is a compact dot type.
- 7. The improved halftone of claim 4 wherein the clustered cell is a spiral-dot type.
- 8. The improved halftone of claim 1, wherein the halftone cell is a stochastic type.

5

10



receiving a source image comprising original pixel data; and processing the source image original pixel data with a halftone including embedded auxiliary pixels therein.

- 10. The method for improving the printing of an electrostatic image of claim 9, wherein the step of processing includes using halftones of a cluster dot type.
- 11. The method for improving the printing of an electrostatic image of claim 9, wherein the step of processing includes using halftones of a dispersed dot type.
- 12. The method for improving the printing of an electrostatic image of claim 9, wherein the step of processing includes using halftones of a stochastic type.

5

10



13. In a digital imaging system, a method for optimizing a rendition of a document image, comprising:

receiving a representation of the document image; and processing the document image to form a halftone image including therein embedded auxiliary pixels to improve the rendition of the document image.

- 14. The digital imaging system of claim 13, wherein the step of processing comprises forming the halftone image using a processing system including a digital front end.
- 15. The digital imaging system of claim 14, wherein the step of forming uses a cluster dot type halftone.
- 16. The digital imaging system of claim 14, wherein the step of forming uses a dispersed dot type halftone.
- 17. The digital imaging system of claim 14, wherein the step of forming uses a stochastic type halftone.